REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the present application. The Non-Final Office Action mailed on August 11, 2005, rejected claims 1-9. The instant response includes amendments to Claims 1, 4, and 8 to correct typographical errors and readability. In addition claims 4, 7, and 8 were amended to more distinctly point out that which the Applicants claim as their invention. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments. For the reasons discussed in detail below, Applicants submit that the pending claims are patentable over the art of record.

<u>35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections</u>

Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wang (U.S. 6,038,333). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants submit that Wang does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of independent Claims 7-9. For example, claim 9 recites a method for use with a system for managing digital media files. The method comprises steps that, among other things, use "scene detection to detect scenes portrayed in the digital media files, yielding metadata," and analyzing the metadata to detect duplicate files.

Wang does not disclose or suggest using scene detection as claimed in independent claim 9. Rather, Wang merely describes a person identifier and management system that uses a face analysis system coupled to a camera to extract face feature data from an input face image and to compare the input face image with face images stored in a database. Person-identifying data of any stored face image similar to the input face image can be retrieved from the image database for display. See Wang, Abstract. Nowhere does Wang disclose or even suggest using the face analysis system for scene detection as claimed in claim 9. Thus, for at least this reason, Wang does not anticipate nor make obvious claim 9.

Amended Claim 7 recites a method for use with a system for managing digital media files. The method comprises, among other steps, using face recognition to recognize faces, yielding

metadata indicative of the recognized faces, analyzing the metadata to detect duplicate files among the digital media files and displaying the duplicate files to a user. Moreover, amended Claim 7 further recites "enabling at least one of the duplicate files from the displayed duplicate files in the digital media files to be purged." Nowhere, however, does Wang disclose or even suggests enabling purging of at least one of the displayed duplicate files as claimed. Thus, for at least this reason, Wang does not anticipate nor make obvious amended claim 7. Moreover, amended claim 8 includes similar, albeit it different limitations for "enabling the user to purge at least one of the duplicate files." Thus, for at least the same reason as above, Wang does not anticipate nor render obvious claim 8.

Furthermore Claim 7 recites displaying the duplicate files for a user. Nowhere, however, does Wang disclose or suggest displaying of duplicate <u>files</u>. As described. Wang merely displays the resulting person-identifying data along with the input face image. As shown in the figures of Wang, only a singular image is displayed by Wang, not the duplicate <u>files</u> (plural). Thus, for at least this reason, Wang does not anticipate nor render obvious claim 7. Similarly, claims 8 and 9 recite displaying duplicate files. Therefore, they are also neither anticipated nor rendered obvious for at least the same reason as claim 7. Accordingly, the rejection of independent Claims 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) should be withdrawn.

<u>35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections</u>

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,920,610 hereinafter "Lawton") in view of Scott et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0000998 hereinafter "Scott"). Lawton is directed to creating smart thumbnail images based on a document model (Lawton abstract; col. 5, lines 56-60; col. 6, lines 8-11.). Scott is directed to a "method and apparatus for the manipulation of thumbnail images," and "arrangements whereby zooming in and out of thumbnail images can be performed." (Scott abstract) The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, because, Lawton in view of Scott does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations of Claims 1-6.

For example, amended Claim 1 recites, among others, the step of "displaying a subset of the first thumbnail images, the subset comprising more than one and less than all of the myriad first thumbnail images, the subset created as a result of input from a first user." Lawton does not disclose displaying a subset of the first thumbnail images that is more than one and less than all of the myriad of first thumbnail images as claimed by the Applicants. Specifically, Lawton states "the smart thumbnail is presented on the display 47," and "a user can manipulate a display cursor … to indicate a specific position within the displayed smart thumbnail 74 for which more detailed information is desired to be retrieved." (Lawton, col. 6, lines 38-44.) Lawton only mentions displaying the thumbnail corresponding to one document, and a position within the single thumbnail. No discussion or suggestion is made of displaying a subset of thumbnails corresponding to more than one and less than all of the myriad first thumbnail images as required by independent Claim 1.

In addition, amended Claim 1 recites the steps, among others, of "generating myriad first thumbnail images," "each first thumbnail image having first dimensions ", "displaying a subset of the first thumbnail images, … the subset created as a result of input from a first user," "receiving a configuration command from a second user, the configuration command indicative of second dimensions differing from the first dimensions," "displaying a subset of the second thumbnail images," "each second thumbnail image having second dimensions," and "the subset created as a result of input from a third user."

Scotts neither discloses nor suggests modifying any dimensional or resolution sizes indicated by a configuration command from a second user. Scott merely discloses that "thumbnails, organized in one or more groups, are laid out in respective containment areas. . . In step 123, the thumbnails are scaled in each containment area to fit with the available area of the containment area." (Scott, pg. 7, paragraph 0095.) Scott further discloses that "image thumbnails are generated at varying resolutions or sizes. The various resolutions or sizes may be predetermined, which can be adjusted to a different size than that of the predetermined one." (Scott, pg. 9, paragraph 0117). Scott explains that thumbnails to be displayed are decoded and scaled to the appropriate sizes. Thus, these sizes are *automatically* determined in such a way that the thumbnails substantially fill

the display or containment area. (See, Scott, pg. 9, paragraph 0118 - pg. 10, paragraph 0128).
However, Scott does not disclose or suggest that any dimensional or resolution sizes are indicated
by a configuration command from a second user as required by independent Claim 1.

Furthermore, there is nothing in Lawton or Scott to suggest that the two references
should be combined. Lawton is directed to creating thumbnails from a document model, but
remains associated with the document model. In contrast, Scott is directed to a method for scaling,
encoding and compressing a number of independent thumbnails that have no association with an
underlying document model or other common source. (See, Lawton abstract; col. 5, lines 56-60;
col. 6, lines 8-11; Scott, pg. 2, paragraph 0027). Manipulating the thumbnails of Lawton with the
method of Scott, would require disassociating the thumbnails of Lawton from the underlying
document model. This would render Lawton unusable for its intended purpose. Thus, there is no
motivation to combine Lawton and Scott.

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, Lawton in view of Scott does not make obvious
independent Claim 1. In addition, because independent Claim 4 includes similar limitations as
Claim 1, albeit different, it is also allowable for at least substantially the same reasons as
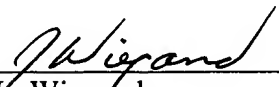independent Claim 1.

In regard to Claims 2-3 and 5-6 which are dependent on independent Claims 1 and 4
respectively, they are allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above for those independent
claims. Thus, in view of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration, and withdrawal of the rejection of
the claims pending for examination is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

By the foregoing explanations, Applicants believe that this response has responded fully to all of the concerns expressed in the Office Action, and believes that it has placed each of the pending claims in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. Should any further aspects of the application remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Dated: November 10, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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